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FROM: LONDON

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ACTION DEPARTMENT 1817, INFORMATION MOSCOW 74.

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LEAD ARTICLE OF THE ECONOMIST'S FOREIGN REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 8 ASSERTS THAT DURING CUBAN CRISIS US AND SOVIET UNION STRUCK "STRATEGIC BARGAIN" UNDER WHICH EACH AGREED TO STOP RELYING ON "IMMOBILE, LAND BASED MISSILES, PROVOCATIVELY SITED NEAR EACH OTHER'S NATIONAL FRONTIERS, FOR THEIR OWN DEFENCE OR THAT OF THEIR ALLIES." ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, ARRANGEMENT WHICH WAS REACHED IN SERIES OF MEETINGS DURING CRISIS BETWEEN KOHLER AND KHRUSHCHEV PROVIDES:

1. SOVS WILL NOT PLACE MISSILES OR STATION AIRCRAFT WITH NUCLEAR CAPABILITY OUTSIDE WARSAW PACT FRONTIERS;
2. US WILL REDUCE ITS FIRST STRIKE MISSILE BASES IN EUROPE;
3. SOME DEGREE OF DISENGAGEMENT URGENTLY REQUIRED IN CENTRAL EUROPE - MOST LIKELY FORM OF WHICH WOULD BE NUCLEAR FREE ZONE.

ARTICLE GOES ON TO SAY THAT KOHLER-KHRUSHCHEV EXCHANGES PRODUCED AGREEMENT ON FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES WHICH MIGHT FORM BASIS OF STRATEGIC UNDERSTANDING:

1. LESS RELIANCE ON TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND ON MRBM'S AND IRBM'S;
2. DETERRENCE SHOULD DEPEND IN FIRST INSTANCE ON COMBAT EFFICIENCY OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES;

3. ONLY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CPC/MR

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3. ONLY IF THESE FAILED WOULD NUCLEAR SUPPORT FROM OUTSIDE PROSPECTIVE NUCLEAR FREE ZONE BE JUSTIFIED. SUCH SUPPORT WOULD BE PROVIDED BY MANNED AIRCRAFT AND MISSILE SUBS ONLY WITH ICBM'S IN SOVIET UNION AND US USED ONLY IN LAST RESORT.

EMBASSY HAS ALREADY RECEIVED INQUIRIES ON ARTICLE FROM LOCAL PRESS AND ANY GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MAY BE ABLE TO FURNISH WOULD BE HELPFUL. COPIES OF ARTICLE BEING AIR-MAILED TO TYLER/EUR AND AMBASSADOR KOHLER.

BRUCE

DMJ